ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am immensely indebted to my supervisor, guide and most adorable Dr. R. Rangarajan, Senior Lecturer, Department of Commerce, D.G. Vaishanav College, Chennai, for his invaluable guidance. My most sincere and profound thanks to him, but whose motivation, relentless, unstinted and able support, I would not have been able to complete my research on time.

I shall be thankful for ever to the Management of D.G. Vaishanav College, Chennai, for having provided me the opportunity of being a student of this esteemed institution and I am grateful to The Secretary Sri. S. R. Damani for having permitted me to undertake this research work.

I express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. P. Ravilochanan, Reader and Research supervisor, Department of Economics, A.M. Jain College, Minambakkam, Chennai, who has been a great source of inspiration. His sustained support and advice enabled me to carry out my research work successfully.

I record my heart-felt thanks to our Principal Dr. B. Krishnan who has all along been motivating me to complete the research work in time.

I am infinitely indebted to Dr. S. Narasimhan, Vice-Principal, Professor and Head, Research Department of Economics who has all along been an unfailing source of inspiration. His constant advice and useful tips and his expertise in research have helped me to complete my research work in time.
My sincere thank to Dr. H.N. Pandey, Vice-Principal (Evening College), Professor and Head, Research Department of Hindi for having shown keen interest in the progress of my research.

I wish to place on record my profound gratitude and thanks to my Head of the Department, Dr. T.S. Vembu for his encouragement, help and support rendered to me in my entire endeavour.

I am thankful to the members of Doctoral committee Dr. S. Gurusamy, Reader in commerce, D.G.Vaishnav College, Chennai and Dr. P.A. Sathyantarayana, Reader in commerce, Guru Nanak College, Chennai, for their uninstinct support and help from time to time during the research.

I am thankful to Dr. Jayaprakash, whose help almost in every aspect of this study needs special mention. His sincere advice on statistical methods at crucial stages provided me with the right sense of direction.

My special thanks to the former HOD (Day College) Shri. N.S. Natarajan and HOD (Evening College) Shri B. Santhanam of my College, who have all along been motivating me to complete the research work in time.
The words of encouragement, support and inspiration from my colleagues in the department deserve to be mentioned here, and I am thankful to each and everyone of them.

I would like to extend my thanks to Mr. Janarthanan, Department of Industry and Commerce, Chennai, Ms.Namagiri, Deputy Director, SISI, Chennai, Sri.N.Nagarajan (consultant) ITCOT, Chennai, Staff of Applied and Economic Survey, Kuralagam, Chennai, Secretaries of Manufacturers Associations, SSIs, Guindy and Ambathur and the respondents of the questionnaires who responded in time.

I thankfully acknowledge the help rendered by the Librarian of University of Madras, Cannimara Library, RBI Staff Training College, State Planning Commission, Indian Overseas Bank (Lead Bank) Chennai, IFMR, Chennai.

I extend my thanks to Dr. Gowri Sivaraman, Reader in English Department for her help in correction and language editing within a short span of time.

I shall acknowledge with passion the fact that the much needed zest and confidence was provided by my wife Mrs. M. Lalitha whenever I encountered any set back in the course of the study.